

Message Text

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13

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 DRC-01 /091 W

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O P 300801Z JUL 74

FM AMCONSUL NAHA

TO AMEMB TOKYO

INFO SECSTATE WASH DC 1459

USFJ FUCHU JAPAN

313TH AD KADENA

MARCORB CAMP BUTLER

COMFLEACTS OKINAWA

USAGO FORT BUCKNER

CINCPAC POLAD HAWAII

C O N F I D E N T I A L NAHA 335

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, JA

SUBJ: IE SHIMA INCIDENT - REACTION TO USAF DECISION ON JURISDICTION

SUMMARY: THE OKINAWAN PRESS AND POLITICIANS HAVE PREDICTABLY
RAISED A MAJOR CLAMOR ABOUT THE REVERSAL OF THE AIR FORCE DECISION ON
JURISDICTION OVER THE AIRMEN INVOLVED IN THE IE SHIMA SHOOTING
INCIDENT. MAINTAINING INDIGNATION, THEY DEMAND THAT THE GOJ TAKE A
STRONG STANCE AND THAT THE AERIAL RANGE BE CLOSED. END SUMMARY.

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1. THE OKINAWAN REACTION HAS BEEN AS COULD BE PREDICTED TO THE
AIR FORCE DECISION COMMUNICATED TO THE PROCURATOR'S OFFICE JULY 29
ON THE ISSUANCE OF A CERTIFICATE OF DUTY TO THE TWO CONCERNED AIRMEN
(LOCKE AND JOHNSON) INVOLVED IN THE IE SHIMA SHOOTING INCIDENT. THE
TWO LOCAL NEWSPAPERS GAVE HEADLINE AND VERY HEAVY COVERAGE TO THE
DECISION AND TO STATEMENTS OF PROTEST FROM VARIOUS SOURCES,
MOSTLY LEFTIST.

2. GOVERNOR YARA IS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT: "THIS IS A ONE-SIDED
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DECISION THAT IGNORES THE DEMANDS OF THE PEOPLY OF THE PREFECTURE."

HE DEMANDED THAT JURISDICTION AND POLICE CUSTODY OF THE TWO AIRMEN BE GIVEN PROMPTLY TO THE JAPANESE SIDE. HE ALSO DECLARED THAT THIS SORT OF INCIDENT CAN ONLY BE FORECLOSED BY THE IMMEDIATE RETURN OF THE IE SHIMA AERIAL RANGE. A LETTER TO THIS EFFECT WAS DELIVERED TO GENERAL MCCLAIN, CG 313TH AD KADENA, BY THE DIRECTOR OF THE PREFECTURAL LIAISON DEPARTMENT.

3. CHIEF PROCURATOR YASUDA TOLD THE PRESS THAT, BASED ON THE GOJ INVESTIGATIONS, HE HAD INFORMED GENERAL MCCLAIN THAT HIS OFFICE BELIEVED THE OFFENSES WERE NOT COMMITTED IN THE COURSE OF DUTY, AND IS APPEALING THIS TO THE US-GOJ JOINT COMMITTEE. PRESS ARTICLES ALSO NOTED THAT THE FOREIGN OFFICE STRONGLY HELD THIS VIEW AND WOULD

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PUSH THIS HARD IN THE COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULED JULY 30.

4. OTHER ARTICLES CARRIED A WIDE RANGE OF STATEMENTS OF INDIGNATION FROM VARIOUS SOURCES MOSTLY LEFTIST. GENSUIKYO DENOUNCED THE DECISION AS A "PROVOCATION". THE LEFTIST JAPAN LAWYERS ASSOCIATION DECLAIMED ON THE THEME OF WHAT IS OFFICIAL ABOUT SHOOTING A DEFENSELESS ISLANDER. MAYOR CHINEN OF IE VILLAGE, A CONSERVATIVE, IS QUOTED AS EXPRESSING ANGER AT THE REVERSAL OF THE DECISION ON JURISDICTION. A PREFECTURAL ASSEMBLY DELEGATION REPRESENTING ALL PARTIES LEAVES TODAY FOR TOKYO TO TOUR THE TOKYO GOVERNMENT OFFICES PROTESTING THE INCIDENT AND DEMANDING THE REMOVAL OF THE RANGE. THE SOCILAIST LEADER OF THE DELEGATION CLAIMED THAT, BY THIS LAST DECISION, THE U.S. FORCES WERE TURNING OKINAWA INTO A "ZONE WITHOUT LAW". A COMMUNIST DELEGATION TOURED IE SHIMA JULY 29 LEAD BY DIET MEMBER SENAGA WHO SAID THAT HE WOULD ALSO BE MAKING AN ISSUE IN THE DIET OF THE PURPORTED USE OF DUMMY NUCLEAR BOMBS AT THE IE SHIMA RANGE

5. COMMENT: THE NEW DECISION ON JURISDICTION IS A WINDFALL FOR THE LOCAL LEFTISTS WHO HAD SEEN THE COMMOTION OVER THE INCIDENT FADING AWAY AFTER THE EARLIER DECISION ON GOJ JURIDICAL JURISDICTION. THE NEXT STAGE OF ACTION IS, OF COURSE, IN TOKYO AS THE U.S. RESPONSE TO THE GOJ REQUESTS IN THE JOINT COMMITTEE OVER JURISDIC-

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TION IS AWAITED. AN UNFAVORABLE RESPONSE MAY ALLOW THE OKINAWAN CONFIDENTIAL

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LEFTISTS, AFTER A LONG SPELL OF NATIONAL INATTENTION, TO BE THE MAINT ACTORS IN A CAUSE WITH MAINLAND LEFTIST SUPPORT AND SIGNIFICANT DIET DEBATE. IN ANY EVENT, THE OKINAWAN LEFTISTS AND THE PRE-FECTURAL GOVERNEMNT WILL CONTINUE TO PRESS NOW FOR REMOVAL OF THE IE SHIMA RANGE. FOR THE AIR FORCE A VITAL OPERATIONAL FACILITY

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